National Wildlife Refuge Activity Guide



Welcome to Your National Wildlife Refuge System



The National Wildlife Refuge System is America's only network of land that was created to protect and conserve wildlife and their habitats. Refuges also provide places for people to explore and enjoy.

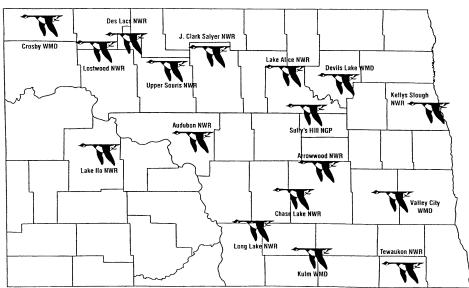
With over 550 National Wildlife Refuges and one in every state, wildlife can find a safe home all across the country. The National Wildlife Refuge System protects over 93 million acres of habitat.

Where Am I??

- The first refuge was named Pelican Island and can be found off the coast of Florida.
- Find a refuge that has swamps and alligators.
- Which refuges would you find polar bears?
- At which refuge would ducks and geese spend the winter?
- How many refuges are there in the state you live in?
- Can you find which state has the most refuges?
- At which refuges would you find seals?
- Find a refuge that is in the desert.

North Dakota's National Wildlife Refuges and Wetland Management Districts

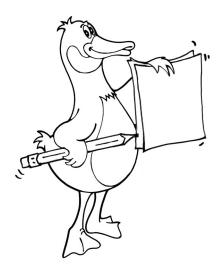
National Wildlife Refuge System Lands in North Dakota



NWR – National Wildlife Refuge WMD – Wetland Management District NGP – National Game Preserve

What is a Refuge and Wetland Management District?

- Wetland Management Districts have lands called Waterfowl Production Areas
- Waterfowl Production Areas have green and white signs and are open to many kinds of hunting and fishing
- Refuges have blue and white signs and are only open to some hunting and fishing
- Both offer great places to explore and see wildlife
- Both provide homes for migratory birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians, insects and plants
- North Dakota has the most Refuges and Waterfowl Production Areas in the country

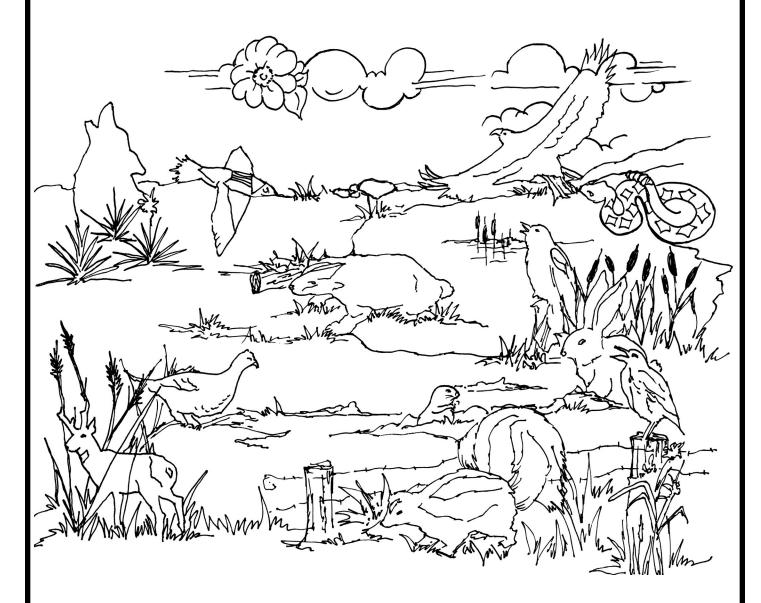


Honker, the Canada goose, is the mascot of the National Wildlife Refuge Sytem. Honker will be your guide through this activity booklet, and show you many exciting things to see and do at a National Wildlife Refuge.





Prairie Habitats



Can You Find These Refuge Friends?...

Meadowlark Antelope

Badger Prairie rose

Prairie dog Blue grama grass

Rattlesnake Coyote

Golden eagle Sharp-tailed grouse

Jackrabbit Bobolink

Skunk

Wetland Habitats

CANVASBACKJ MJKQW K W M I N S K G 7 D Α P E T KA H C W N S T W E E MAR D L 0 R C E T D R Y K 0 0 Α 0 LWSM F N R S K R TWA Α D X 0 G Α N R A S Н K Α G F G J D 0 Z P Ε Α N M 0 0 G 0 R F D R Α P O F S P N U V 0 Т Α O R SWANN E Н Ε E L 0 0

Wetland Words to Find

Canvasback
Cattail
Coot
Dragonfly
Egret
Garter snake

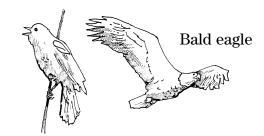
Goose Heron Leopard frog Mallard Mink Muskrat

Pintail
Pothole
Salamander
Smartweed
Swan
Wetland



Tewaukon & Audubon National Wildlife Refuges

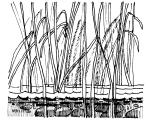
Help Match the Critters to Their Homes...



Red-winged blackbird



Sandy shores



Bottom of wetland



Shorebird



Floating nest





Grebe



Muskrat



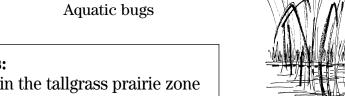
Nest in cattails



Nest in cottonwood tree







Surface of water

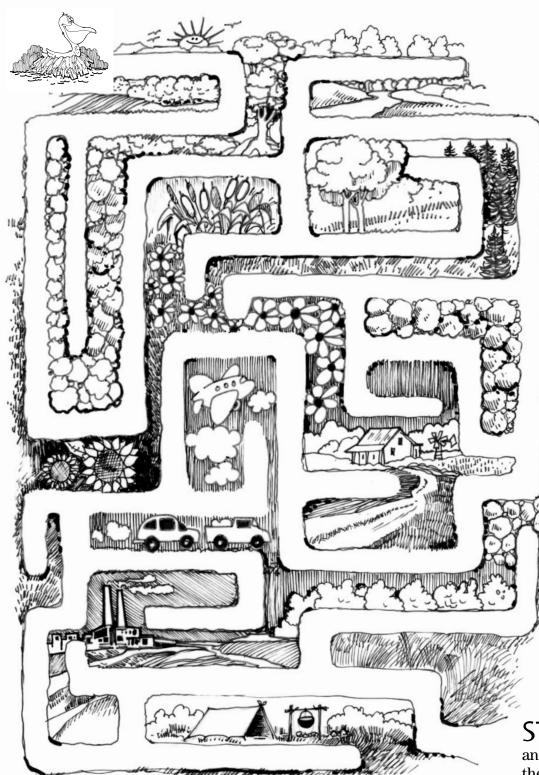


Grass along shore

Refuge Facts:

Tewaukon is in the tallgrass prairie zone with grass that grows taller than six feet. **Audubon** has over 100 islands that provide nesting habitat for ducks, geese and other ground nesting birds.

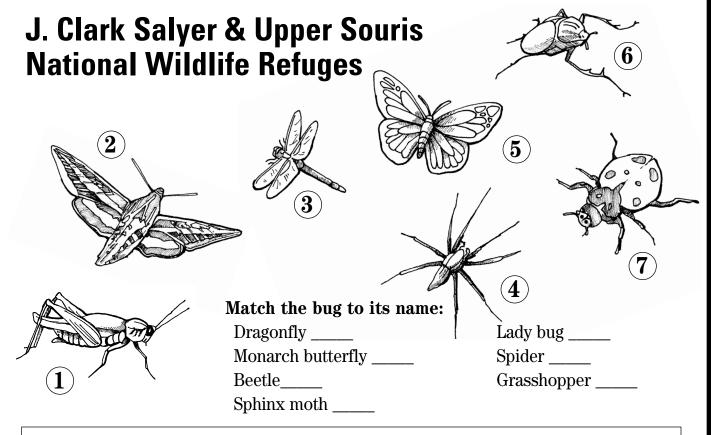
Arrowwood and Chase Lake National Wildlife Refuges



Refuge Facts: Chase Lake has the largest population of nesting American pelicans in North America.

Arrowwood is home to many grassland song-birds like Baird's and grasshopper sparrows.

START HERE and find your way to the nesting pelican.

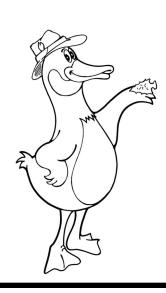


Refuge Facts:

J. Clark Salyer is the largest North Dakota Refuge with 58,700 acres of prairie, wetland and woodland habitat.

Upper Souris extends almost 30 miles along the Souris River providing homes for many wetland birds.

Long Lake and Lake IIo National Wildlife Refuges



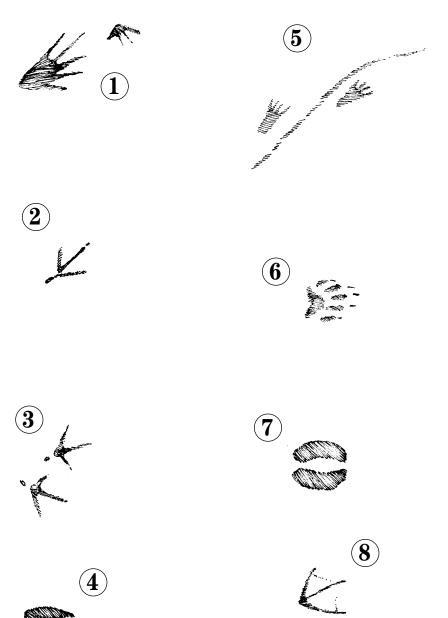
Native people have lived in North Dakota for hundreds of years. They lived off the plentiful wildlife and plants found here. The tools that they used long ago may be found today... we call them Artifacts. Stone axes, knives, arrowheads, pottery and bone needles may be discovered when exploring. Remember, do not remove any artifacts from a National Wildlife Refuge – they are part of history and must be left for others to discover and enjoy.

Refuge Facts:

Long Lake provides a resting place for thousands of migrating ducks, geese and swans.

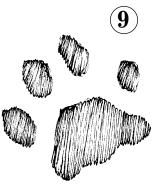
Lake Ilo hosts a colony of great blue herons who nest in the lofty cottonwood trees along the shore of Lake Ilo.

DesLacs and Lostwood National Wildlife Refuges





Des Lacs is a major migration stop for snow geese. Each fall a "blizzard" of snow geese rest on the refuge marshes. **Lostwood** still has hundreds of acres of prairie that has never been plowed and wetlands that have not been drained.





Can You Identify the "footprints"...

the lootpines	••
Muskrat	
Shorebird	_
Goose	
Grouse	

Antelope _____ Mountain lion _____

Bison _____ Frog _____

Coyote ____

Badger ____

Sully's Hill National Game Preserve and Kellys Slough National Wildlife Refuge

BIRDWATCHING Bird Identification Tips

Look at...

- 1. **Size** compare the bird to something common like smaller than cat, bigger than a deck of cards
- 2. **Shape** overall body shape or shape of beak, wings, tail
- 3. **Color** look for patches or overall coloration on the body
- 4. **Markings** look on the head, wings and tail for spots, stripes or other markings
- 5. **Habitat** is it in the water, on the shore, on the ground in a tree





Refuge Facts:

Sully's Hill NGP was established by President Theodore Roosevelt for big game animals like bison, elk and deer.

Kelly's Slough provides feeding and resting areas to over 30,000 shorebirds every year including avocets, sandpipers, and phalaropes.









Match the names to the correct silhouette:

Pelican ____

Swan ____

Bald eagle ____

Downy woodpecker _____

Crane _____

Mallard duck _____





